

Learning English with CBC Calgary

Weekly newscast

November 16th 2012

Lessons prepared by Justine Light & Barbara Edmondson

Objectives of the weekly newscast lesson

- to develop listening skills at the CLB 4 level
- to increase vocabulary among learners
- to increase knowledge of news stories
- to provide a self-study tool, as well as, an ESL classroom resource



www.alberta.ca

<http://www.cbc.ca/calgary/learning-english/>

News story #1

Before you listen to the first news story, complete this vocabulary activity. It will help you to understand the listening more easily.

Vocabulary

Match the words with their definitions. *Answers are in the appendix.*

Answer	Word	Definition
	resigned	to concentrate on or give your time to someone or something
	revealed	expressed negative feelings about something
	affair	to follow
	complained	communicating in a way that shows you are sexually interested
	jealous	quit one's job
	pay attention	a high ranking officer in the military
	flirtatious	showed to everyone something that was hidden
	inappropriate	feeling envy because someone has something you want
	succeed	a sexual relationship between people who are not married
	general (noun)	not acceptable

Now listen to the first news story from the audio file.

Listening activity: Multiple Choice

Choose the best answer to complete the sentences. *Answers are in the appendix.*

1. Paula Broadwell wrote a book about _____	a) FBI investigator David Petraeus. b) CIA Director David Petraeus.
2. David Petraeus had an affair with _____	a) Paula Broadwell. b) Jill Kelley.
3. Paula Broadwell was jealous David Petraeus paid attention to Jill Kelley so she _____	a) sent emails to Jill Kelley. b) complained to the FBI.
4. Kelley complained and the FBI _____ and discovered the affair between Petraeus and Broadwell.	a) ignored the emails b) investigated the emails
5. In the emails the FBI also discovered a flirtatious relationship between _____	a) Jill Kelley and David Petraeus. b) John Allen and Jill Kelley.
6. David Petraeus was _____ of the U.S. war in Iraq and Afghanistan.	a) the communicator b) the commander
7. John Allen succeeded David Petraeus as the top general _____.	a) Iraq b) Afghanistan

Discussion Question

Why do you think David Petraeus resigned from his job? Why do you think the public is so interested in the private life of David Petraeus?

News story #2

Before you listen to the second news story, complete this vocabulary activity. It will help you to understand the listening more easily.

Vocabulary

Use one of the vocabulary words below to complete the sentences. *Answers are in the appendix.*

prediction (guess about the future)
refineries (factories that process oil)
overtake (to catch up and then pass)

producer
latest (most recent)
doubt (not certain)

decade
advances
conclusion

Extra vocabulary to help you understand the story:

shale rock formations: A type of rock where many fossil fuels, like oil are found

1. There are many oil refineries east of Edmonton.
2. Children spend more than a _____ in school.
3. Alberta is the top oil _____ in Canada.
4. The _____ news is broadcast on CBC radio every hour.
5. There have been many technological _____ this century (100 years.)
6. The weather forecast is a _____ about what the weather will be like.
7. The last sentence of a paragraph is called the _____.
8. When driving, if we see an ambulance or fire truck with their sirens on we should pull over and let it _____ us.
9. If you _____ your answer you should check with your teacher.

Now listen to the second news story from the audio file.

Listening Activity: Short Answer

Read and answer the questions below. *Answers are in the appendix.*

1. When is the U.S. expected to become the world's top oil producer?
2. What will the U.S. be able to do by 2035?
3. Which agency made this prediction?
4. Which country is the world's top oil producer today?
5. Will the American demand Canadian for oil decrease? Why?
6. Why will the US refineries want more oil from Alberta?

Discussion Question

The oil industry is very important to Alberta's economy. How is your life affected by the oil industry?

News story #3

Before you listen to the third news story, complete this vocabulary activity. It will help you to understand the listening more easily.

Vocabulary - Read the definitions below, and then put the sentences in the correct order. *Answers are in the appendix.*

Words and Definitions
colourful – interesting and unusual
outspoken – giving your opinion without worrying what others will say
battling – to try to do something that is very hard
ceremony – a formal event
lasting – continuing for a long time
contributions – giving something to help others

Extra vocabulary to help you understand the story:

dementia: a serious problem with mental abilities, such as memory loss, problems with reasoning

1. grandmother My woman. colourful was a _____
2. leader. The mayor outspoken is an _____
3. battling The man young was cancer. _____
4. beach. wedding ceremony on the The was held _____
5. had a effect lasting. This book me on _____
6. made a contribution huge football the team. The teacher to _____

Now listen to the third news story from the audio file.

Listening Activity: True/False

Decide whether the statements below are **true** or **false**. Write your answer in the blanks. *Answers are in the appendix.*

1. _____. Ralph Klein received the Order of Canada.
2. _____. Ralph Klein was too sick to attend the event .
3. _____. The Order of Canada ceremony is usually held in Calgary.
4. _____. Ralph Klein won three elections as party leader.
5. _____. Ralph Klein was elected as Mayor of Calgary four times.
6. _____. Ralph Klein used to work in the media

Discussion Question: What makes a good leader? Discuss some of the great leaders from your home city. What made that person great?

Language Focus

Identifying phrasal verbs

Phrasal verbs – two words together that act as one verb. Phrasal verbs are most commonly made up of a verb and a preposition. Phrasal verbs often confuse students because the words together have a different meaning than the two separate words they are made up of.

For example:

break up – when a couple decides they no longer want to be a couple.

The word *break* means to destroy something. The word *up* is a preposition showing a direction. Together these two words have a very different meaning.

Listen to the second story in the news this week. Can you hear these two examples of phrasal verbs?

set up – organize

look for – to try and find

Look at the following phrasal verbs. Do you know what they mean? *Answers are in the appendix*

1. back (someone) up - _____
2. break down - _____
3. come forward - _____
4. count on - _____
5. figure out - _____
6. look forward to - _____
7. look into - _____
8. make up - _____
9. pay (someone) back - _____
10. run into (someone) - _____
11. think back - _____
12. warm up - _____

Transcripts of Weekly news stories

	NOVEMBER 16 TH WEEKLY NEWS STORIES	TIME
Introduction	Hi, I'm Nadia Stewart, and you are listening to Learning English with CBC news for November 16 th .	0:00
Story 1	CIA Director David Petraeus resigned after it was revealed he was having an affair with Paula Broadwell, a woman who had written a book about him. The affair became public after an FBI investigation into the emails of another woman, Jill Kelley. Kelley complained about emails sent to her by Paula Broadwell. Broadwell was jealous of the attention the general paid to Jill Kelley. During the Petraeus investigation, the FBI found more than 20,000 pages of documents and emails that involved Jill Kelley and the American general in charge of the Afghan war, General John Allen. Some of the communications were called flirtatious and inappropriate by Pentagon officials. David Petraeus had served as the commander of the U.S. wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. John Allen succeeded him as the top general in Afghanistan.	0:09
Story 2	There is a prediction that the United States will be the world's leading producer of oil by the end of the decade and will be able to meet its own energy needs by 2035. That's the conclusion of the International Energy Agency in its latest World Energy Outlook. Technological advances have helped unlock large oil supplies from shale rock formations. With the increased output, the U.S. is expected to overtake Saudi Arabia as the globe's top oil producer before 2020. There are some doubts though that American demand for Canadian oil will decrease any time soon. Alberta's oilsands produce the heavy oil that many refineries in the U.S. are set up to process. The US refineries are looking for increased Alberta oil supplies to replace decreasing supplies from Mexico and Venezuela.	1:25
Story 3	One of Alberta's most colourful and outspoken premiers was given a big honour this week. Former premier Ralph Klein was made an "Officer of the Order of Canada" on Tuesday at Calgary City Hall. Klein is battling a form of dementia and no longer appears in public. So Governor General David Johnston came here to Calgary and gave the award to Klein's wife, Colleen, in a special service. The Order of Canada is usually presented in Ottawa so having the ceremony in our city is rare. Johnston said that Klein made "lasting contributions to the province of Alberta and to public life in Canada." Klein was elected leader of Alberta's Progressive Conservative Party in 1992 and was sworn in as Premier 9 days later. He then led the party to victory in 1993 and again in 1997 and 2001. Before entering provincial politics, Klein was mayor of Calgary for three terms, starting in 1980 after an earlier career in the media.	2:37

Answer keys

News story 1

Vocabulary

Answer	Word	Definition
e	resigned	to concentrate on or give your time to someone or something
g	revealed	to express negative feelings about something
i	affair	to follow or to replace
b	complain	communicating in a way that shows you are sexually interested
h	jealous	quit one's job
a	pay attention	a high ranking officer in the military
d	flirtatious	showed to everyone something that was hidden
j	inappropriate	feeling envy because someone has something you want
c	succeed	a sexual relationship between people who are not married
f	general (noun)	not acceptable

Listening

1. Paula Broadwell wrote a book about _____	a) FBI investigator David Petraeus. b) CIA Director David Petraeus.
2. David Petraeus had an affair with _____	a) Paula Broadwell b) Jill Kelley
3. Paula Broadwell was jealous David Petraeus paid attention to Jill Kelley so she _____	a) sent emails to Jill Kelley b) complained to the FBI
4. Kelley complained and the FBI _____ and discovered the affair between Petraeus and Broadwell.	a) ignored the emails b) investigated the emails
5. In the emails the FBI also discovered a flirtatious relationship between _____	a) Jill Kelley and David Petraeus b) John Allen and Jill Kelley.
6. David Petraeus was _____ of the U.S. war in Iraq and Afghanistan.	a) the communicator b) the commander
7. John Allen succeeded David Petraeus as the top general _____.	a) Iraq b) Afghanistan

News story 2

Vocabulary

1. There are many oil refineries east of Edmonton.
2. Children spend more than a decade in school.
3. Alberta is the top oil producer in Canada.
4. The latest news is broadcast on CBC radio every hour.
5. There have been many technological advances this century (100 years.)

6. The weather forecast is a **prediction** about what the weather will be like.
7. The last sentence of a paragraph is called the **conclusion**.
8. When driving, if we see an ambulance or fire truck with their sirens on we should pull over and let it **overtake** us.
9. If you **doubt** your answer you should check with your teacher.

Listening

1. When is the U.S. expected to become the world's top oil producer? *By the end of the decade/ 2020*
2. What will the U.S. be able to do by 2035? *They will be able to meet their own energy needs – produce their own energy*
3. Which agency made this prediction? *The International Energy Agency*
4. Which country is the world's top oil producer today? *Saudi Arabia*
5. Will the American demand for Canadian oil decrease? Why? *Probably not. Many US refineries are set up to process Alberta's heavy oil.*
6. Why will the US refineries want more oil from Alberta? *Mexico and Venezuela have decreasing supplies, so the US refineries are looking for more oil from AB.*

News story 3

Vocabulary

1. My grandmother was a colourful woman.
2. The mayor is an outspoken leader.
3. The young man was battling cancer.
4. The wedding ceremony was held on the beach.
5. This book had a lasting effect on me.
6. The teacher made a huge contribution to the football team.

1. T. Ralph Klein received the Order of Canada.
2. T Ralph Klein was too sick to attend the event .
3. F The Order of Canada ceremony is usually held in Calgary.
4. T Ralph Klein won three elections as party leader.
5. F Ralph Klein was elected as Mayor of Calgary four times.
6. T Ralph Klein used to work in the media

Phrasal Verbs

1. to support
2. to stop working
3. to volunteer
4. rely on
5. to understand
6. to be excited for something
7. to investigate
8. to forgive someone/to invent something
9. return borrowed money
10. to meet unexpectedly
11. to remember a time in the past
12. to increase the temperature